

**Evergreen Fire District  
Board of Trustees  
Meeting**

**Meeting Minutes  
Regular Board Meeting of October 3rd, 2022 – 6:00 pm**

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

Chairman Fallon calls meeting to order @ 6:21 pm

**TRUSTEES IN ATTENDANCE:**

Fallon, Brockman, Fontaine, Gipe

**ABSENT:**

Connolly

**PERSONNEL IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chief Williams

**RECOGNIZE PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:**

(None)

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** *At this time, public may comment on any public matter that is not on the Agenda of the Meeting and that is within the jurisdiction of the District.*

(none)

**FINANCIALS:**

**Discuss and approve August 2022 Financials – Action**

*Motion; Fontaine to approve the checks and credit card payments and accept the August financials as presented; second by Brockman; motion passes 3 to 1 absent.*

**PAST ITEMS/UPDATES:**

**1. Approve meeting minutes of Sept 12, 2022 – Action**

*Motion; Gipe to approve the meeting minutes of September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 as presented; second by Brockman; motion passes 1 abstention; 1 absent; 2 approve.*

**2. Health Benefits Discussion Update – (Connolly)**

*(Connolly is absent; discussion is tabled)*

**3. New Ambulance Discussion Update**

Chief Williams states a different ambulance has been found instead of the one previously discussed in September (which was not a new remount). The recently located ambulance is a 2022 Dodge Demers and is brand new for \$193,000. Cost does not include graphics but does include delivery. It also includes a brand new power load and power cot (\$58,000) and would put the District slightly over the \$245,000 unless the old power cot can be sold. The ambulance is scheduled to be ready by Christmas.

Fallon states currently the Inter Cap loan rate is 1.55 % through February of 2023 when it will be updated and most likely will be higher; probably around 4%. Fallon states he has it figured as a 5 year loan.

**4. Benevolent Fund Cap Discussion**

Chief Williams states he feels the \$15,000 currently accumulated in 9894 is more than sufficient and would like to see it capped at \$15,000 and depositing anything over that amount into the Department account (4212). Chief Williams states that a portion of the wild land funds are

usually deposited into 4212 and that currently there is about \$6000 in the department account. Chief Williams tells the Board that a long time resident of Evergreen had left his estate to the District and awarded the Department with a larger sum of money that should be deposited into the Department account (4212) as the individual had a personal past practice with the department and instructed his attorney to award the money to Evergreen Fire Hall. Chief Williams states he will carry this item over to November for the establishment of a new policy regarding donations.

**5. New Accounting Software Discussion Update**

Fontaine states it is likely that the District will be going to change to the Montana Bars for chart of accounts but wants to check with Ashley to make sure that QB Premiere can handle the large 16 digit account numbers. She thinks it would be the easiest transition for Cheri to make since she is familiar with QB to begin with. Chief Williams states he would like to get the transition under way sooner than later and points out the fact it is going to be a recurring cost. Fontaine agrees and states that most companies are going to a subscription format. Fontaine states she and Fallon met with a woman from Local Government Services and states they will accept financials for the 2 missing fiscal years and will replace the numbers with audited numbers when available.

**6. Inter-cap Loan Discussion Update**

*(This was discussed in the New Ambulance Discussion)*

In addition to prior discussion, Fallon asks Chief Williams to get the invoice and find out when payment is due. Chief Williams asks if this is a 'one time application' and Fallon states he believes more than one application can be made. Chief Williams states he is curious because an Inter Cap loan is being considered for the engine that was planned for in the budget. Fontaine asks how much cash is required for the ambulance. Fallon states \$50,000 per year for 5 years and the engine is budgeted \$100,000 per year for 6 years. Fontaine clarifies it was \$50,000 down and \$50,000 for accessories for the ambulance (\$100,000 budgeted)

**NEW ITEMS:**

**1. Chief Williams Evaluation/Raise Discussion**

Chief Williams states he recalls the former Chairman Verworn was working on evaluation forms for Trustees. Brockman found the forms on his laptop and sent them to Fallon who will distribute them to the Trustees. They will be sent back to Fallon who will summarize the evaluation for the next meeting. The Board also asks for a self-evaluation from Chief Williams. He states there are 6 bullet points he has and feels they are the components that he is directly responsible for. He states he will add some or all of them if they are missing from the evaluation forms built by Verworn. *(Fallon sent the forms to all Trustees to complete and return to him)*

**2. District Surplus Approval/Smart-boards**

Chief Williams states there are 2 Smart-boards sitting in the community room and no longer in use. Eye Hear says they are worth about \$1500 for the larger one and a little less for the smaller one. Fallon states also to be declared surplus is the projector.

*Motion; Fontaine to declare as surplus property the 2 smart boards and any associated accessories; second by Gipe; motion passes 3 to 1 absent.*

**CHIEF'S REPORT:**

**1. August 2022 Call Volume**

**a) 2019/2022 Comparison Incident Count by Weekday/Hour (all zones) for August**

**b) 2019/2022 Comparison Incident Statistics for August**

Chief Williams states January to August 2022 there are 293 Fire Calls vs. January to August 2019 there were 237 fire calls showing a 50 call increase over 2019. EMS calls are 1715 vs. 1753 in 2019 showing slightly fewer calls. IFT's are 778 vs. 883 in 2019.

Chief Williams states in August 2022 there were 210 EMS calls vs. 253 in August 2019 (pre-Covid) but accurately reflects the numbers in tourists and etc. There were 45 fire calls in August 2022 vs. 37 in 2019. Chief Williams reminds trustees that MVA's are coded under fire. He



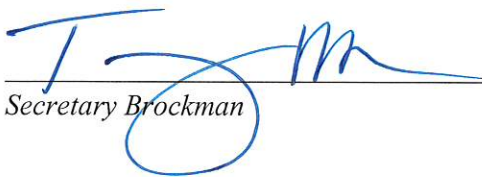
states that have been several crashes including West Valley. He states there is 1 issue since responding to the West Valley District and that is with the response times averaging 20 to 25 minutes and the engine is being called to respond as well to extricate the patients from vehicles due to the equipment being on the engine. He states personnel have had to initiate IV's for pain meds while a patient is still trapped inside a vehicle. He states he does not want to be committing our engine like this. This was something that was not foreseen prior to entering the agreement with West Valley. There have been 2 incidents in which WV didn't show up because they couldn't get an engine and the calls were covered entirely by Evergreen in the middle of an afternoon. Fallon asks if the District could add 2 basic EMTs to assist. Chief Williams states it would have to be a medic and a basic because it is an ALS engine. If an ambulance is not available for transport then the engine would go and be able to stabilize a patient until whomever shows up for transport. Fallon states currently there are 2 basic and 2 medic personnel on shift (not including the 2 for IFT's). Fallon asks Chief Williams to crunch numbers so he can provide an idea on what the costs would be for 3 medics and 4 basics as on shift personnel for the November board meeting.

**Adjourned 7:39**

*The President of the Board of Trustees, as presiding officer of any meeting of the Board of Trustees, may close the meeting during the time the discussion relates to a matter of individual privacy; and, then, if, and only if, the presiding officer determines that the demands of individual privacy clearly exceed the merits of public disclosure. The right of individual privacy may be waived by the individual about whom the discussion pertains; and, in that event, the meeting must be open.*



Chairman Fallon or Vice Chair Connolly



Secretary Brockman